

### **NTAA Weekly Update**

## Week of September 27 - October 1, 2021

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### PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD

NTAA Presents the NTAA Monthly Video Update from Executive Committee Member for Region 7, Billie Toledo with the Prairie Band Potawatomi Indians.



If you don't have time to dive deep into the NTAA Weekly Update, watch the quick video update to help give you the latest news from NTAA and learn more about the Tribes in each region. You can also find this video and previous videos from other NTAA EC members on the NTAA website, <a href="www.NTAATribalAir.org">www.NTAATribalAir.org</a>. Thanks to Happy Accidents Video Production!

### **TOP STORIES**

# NTAA Releases the Nation's First Baseline Needs Assessment Survey for Tribal Air Programs.

A Note from NTAA Chairwoman Carol Kriebs:

On behalf of the NTAA's Executive Committee and staff, we thank you in advance for completing this Baseline Needs Assessment. Thank you for taking time out of your busy day to contribute to NTAA's collective knowledge and information needed to fund Tribes' unmet needs to advance Tribal Air Quality Programs. Your BNA results will be made public and you can request a copy of your answers. NTAA will be providing the BNA results so that Tribes and members of the public can better understand the unmet needs for all 573 federally recognized Tribes and many other Tribal communities who work hard to bring clean air for all and the future

generations. Finally, we wish to express our gratitude to the Partnership for Air Matters for their professionalism and care with NTAA's Executive Committee to release this BNA today!

#### **ABOUT THE SURVEY:**

The National Tribal Air Association invites you to participate in a baseline needs assessment of Tribal air quality funding needs, issues and priorities. All Tribes are encouraged to submit their survey.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

- 1. What's the Purpose of the Survey? The information you provide will enable NTAA to comprehensively describe Tribal ambient and indoor air quality funding needs. This information will then be used to identify the range of Tribal air quality funding needs and priorities and build Tribal air quality management capacity.
- 2. *Is it Voluntary?* Yes! Your participation in this survey is voluntary and you are free to decline to answer any question you do not wish to answer.
- 3. *How Long Will It Take?* The survey will take between 15 20 minutes to complete.
- 4. *Is There an Incentive?* Actually yes! The first 50 respondents to submit a completed survey will receive a \$10 Starbucks or \$10 Amazon gift card. (This is made possible through the donation of an NTAA non-profit partner, not federal funds.)
- 5. What if My Internet is Connection is Poor? We are happy to conduct the survey with you by telephone. If you would like to take the survey by phone, please email Sydney Janssen at sjanssen@thhnw.org to set up a time, or call 800-717-2118, Ext. 105
- 6. What if I am Not Familiar to Air Quality? If you would like to familiarize yourself with air quality funding sources and concepts mentioned in the survey, please review the glossary PDF.
- 7. When Does the Survey Close? The survey closes on Friday, October 29th at 5:00pm Pacific Standard Time.

**TO BEGIN THE SURVEY, CLICK HERE.** (If the link does not automatically open, please cut and paste this link into your browser: <a href="https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6420470/NTAA-Baseline-Needs-Assessment">https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6420470/NTAA-Baseline-Needs-Assessment</a>). You can also find the survey on <a href="https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6420470/NTAA-Baseline-Needs-Assessment">NTAA's website here</a>.

### Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

E&E News- Spending vote Monday as agencies prepare for possible shutdown

U.S. EPA - EPA Now Hosting Biweekly National Environmental Justice Community Engagement Calls

HCN – Federal judge allows excavation work on Native massacre site

The Verge – Babies' poop has way higher levels of microplastics than adults'

Tribal Tribune – Reintroducing Salmon back to their native habitat

NPR - Northern California Has Been Hit With A Startling Increase Of Wildfire Smoke

NPR - <u>The Cherokee Nation Has Agreed To A \$75 Million Settlement With Opioid Distributors</u>

High Country News – <u>6 things you should know about the 2021 Native American Voting Rights Act</u>

The Hill - <u>Native American tribes call for 'immediate action' to protect Bears Ears National Monument: report</u>

Here's your link to this week's NACAA Washington Update.

### Climate Change/Energy

NPR - Children Born In 2020 Will Experience Up To 7 Times More Extreme Climate Events

The Guardian – COP26: Women must be heard on climate, says rights groups

U.S. EPA - <u>U.S. Will Dramatically Cut Climate-Damaging Greenhouse Gases with New Program Aimed at Chemicals Used in Air Conditioning, Refrigeration</u>

Washington Post – <u>Young climate activists join Greta Thunberg for first major</u> <u>Fridays for Future strikes of pandemic</u>

The Guardian – <u>Children set for more climate disasters than their grandparents</u>, research shows

The Hill - <u>Pelosi says it would be a 'dereliction of duty' if infrastructure goes in 'wrong direction' on climate</u>

NPR – <u>Oregon Has A New Plan To Protect Homes From Wildfire. Homebuilders Are Pushing Back.</u>

Ensia – <u>Desalination has guided water exchanges for Israel and Jordan. Could it play a role in the Colorado River Basin's future?</u>

NY Times – <u>Bitcoin Uses More Electricity Than Many Countries.</u> How Is That Possible?

MarketWatch - 2015 methane-gas blowout near Los Angeles leads to settlement of up to \$1.8 billion

#### **Toxics/Mobile Sources**

High Country News – Wild rice sues to stop oil pipeline

The Hill - 21 states urge Biden to consider stricter car emissions rules than proposed

NY Times – After Hurricane Ida, Oil Infrastructure Springs Dozens of Leaks

PHYS.org - Microbial 'theft' enables breakdown of methane, toxic methylmercury

E&E – What China's coal phaseout means for the world

E&E – Oil States Brace For Biden Methane Rule

Reuters - GM backs vehicle emissions reductions goals in EPA proposal

### **Indoor Air Quality**

NY Times – <u>How Bad Indoor Air Quality Can Affect Your Brain</u>

Livescience.com – What is the Air Quality Index?

Be sure to subscribe to **EPA's IAQ Bulletins** 

### **UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES**

### Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

**NEW!** Introduction to Air Quality Modeling for Permitting Programs

September 28 and 30, 2021; 9am AK, 10am PST, 1pm EST / Register Here
This webinar series will provide tribal professionals an introduction to regulatory air dispersion modeling. The webinars will provide an overview of the air dispersion model inputs and methodology so tribal professionals can have a basic understanding of the components of a modeling project and an understanding of how models fit into the permitting process. The series will feature a tribal case study provided by the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

### **Webinar Topics:**

- What is an air quality dispersion model and why are they needed.
- What general inputs and methodology go into a model
- Understanding and interpreting a modeling protocol.
- Permitting and modeling: How does modeling fit into the permitting process.
- Fond du Lac Tribal Case Study

If you have questions contact: <a href="mailto:Christal.Black@nau.edu">Christal.Black@nau.edu</a>

## **NEW!** Applications for EPA's Clean Air Excellence Awards are Now Being Accepted!

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is now accepting applications for the 2022 Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. Through this program, EPA recognizes and honors individuals and organizations whose efforts have helped to make progress in achieving cleaner air. The award recipients are selected for developing innovative, replicable, and sustainable programs; serving as pioneers in their fields; and improving air quality either directly or indirectly through reduced emissions of criteria pollutants, hazardous air pollutants, and/or greenhouse gases.

The five award categories are: (1) Clean Air Technology; (2) Community Action; (3) Education/Outreach (4) State/Tribal/Local Air Quality Policy Innovations; and (5) Transportation Efficiency Innovations. In addition, the Clean Air Excellence Award Program will recognize two special award categories: (1) the Gregg Cooke Visionary Program Award, honoring a former EPA Regional Administrator, is given to the air quality project or program that successfully blends two or more of the existing awards categories; and (2) the Thomas W. Zosel Outstanding Individual Achievement Award, honoring a former member of the CAAAC and environmental leader at 3M, recognizes one individual for their outstanding achievement, leadership, and lasting commitment to promote clean air and achieve better air quality.

The award application and more information are available at <a href="https://www.epa.gov/caaac/clean-air-excellence-awards">https://www.epa.gov/caaac/clean-air-excellence-awards</a>.

Applications must be emailed or postmarked by <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>November 30</u>, <u>2021</u>. Applicants are strongly encouraged to send their entries electronically to <u>OAR Clean Air Excellence Awards@epa.gov</u>. EPA will also accept hard copies of applications mailed to Catrice Jefferson, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Air and Radiation, MC-6103A, Room 5442-Q (WJC-North), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20460.

#### **National Tribal Broadband Summit**

Friday, October 1 / Register Here

Today, more than ever before, access to reliable and affordable broadband service is critical to the health, wellbeing, and economic development of Tribal nations. The Biden Administration is making historic investments to broadband in rural and Tribal communities, and is committed to bringing affordable, reliable high-speed broadband to all Americans. The National Tribal Broadband Summit is a unique opportunity for Tribal Leaders, representatives of Tribal organizations, representatives of schools and school districts serving under-connected Native students, tribal libraries, museums, and cultural programs, federal program managers, and policy-makers at multiple levels of government to come together and share their innovations in expanding broadband access and adoption for tribal communities.

## EPA releases new report on Climate Change and Social Vulnerability in the United States: A Focus on Six Impacts

EPA's new report quantifies the degree to which four socially vulnerable populations— defined based on income, educational attainment, race and ethnicity, and age—may be more exposed to the highest impacts of climate change. The report quantifies six types of impacts: air quality and health, extreme temperature and health, extreme temperature and labor, coastal flooding and traffic, coastal flooding and property, and inland flooding and property. Access the report. To download the report's findings related to the disproportionate risks of climate change to American Indian and Alaska Natives. To find more information about climate change: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/climate-change">https://www.epa.gov/climate-change</a>

### **AQSync: Calibration Station for Sensor-Based Mobile Monitoring**

October 6; 10:00am – 10:30am PT / Register Here

With the explosion of sensor use for air monitoring, the eternal question on everyone's mind is "what about calibration"? Sensor calibration can pose a daunting task for communities without access to a regulatory site. In this webinar

we introduce the new AQSync by 2B Technologies. The AQSync represents an exciting evolution in air monitoring by combining miniaturized FEM and near-FEM instruments in a weatherproof enclosure. In this webinar we will explore some of the current applications of the AQSync, including drive-by calibrations of mobile sensors. Lastly, we will share information on the effort underway to use AQSyncs placed at schools as the hub of community monitoring and air pollution mapping efforts

## Call for Tribal Participants to Help Revise EPA, QAPP, and QMP Requirements/Guidance Documents

EPA is seeking Tribal participation (particularly tribal scientists and environmental staff with experience in writing or updating QMPs and/or QAPPs for their EPA grants) in revising three of the Agency's most used and downloaded Quality Assurance (QA) documents:

- EPA QA/R-2, EPA Requirements for Quality Management Plans (March 2001)
- EPA QA/R-5, EPA Requirements for Quality Assurance Project Plans (March 2001)
- EPA QA/G-5, Guidance for Quality Assurance Project Plans (December 2002)

There are a variety of ways tribes can participate:

- Take part in listening sessions
- Attend document revision webinars on QA topics of interest
- Review and Comment on the draft QMP and QAPP Standards during pre-clearance review
- Contact their Regional QA Manager <u>here</u>
- Provide feedback in implementing revised QA documents.

Please see the <u>Project Notice</u> for more details. For more information, please feel free to contact <u>Linda Himmelbauer</u>, Directives Project Lead, or <u>Katherine</u> <u>Chalfant</u>, Acting, Enterprise Quality Management Division (EQMD) Director.

## Fourth National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy Workshop, Virtual Event

October 4 - 8, 2021 / Register Here

The 4<sup>th</sup> National Cohesive Strategy Workshop will center on this theme and focus sharply on understanding, co-managing, transferring, and accepting risk at federal, state, Tribal and local stakeholder levels to prioritize and invest in decisions, projects and other efforts that result in widespread reduction in risk across landscapes, and communities, the public and firefighters collectively. Since the inception of The National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy, we have learned that there are multiple "hard truths" of living with fire that must

be accepted in order to make meaningful progress towards the three national goals of Resilient Landscapes, Fire Adapted Communities and a Safe, Effective, Risk-Based Wildfire Response.

EPA's air quality training program is released three new training materials! These materials are foundational in level, and are being offered to tribal, state, and local air agencies in an e-learning format through our learning management system (LMS).

The materials include:

- A course that explains the purpose of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) within the air quality management process.
- A module that explains each of the six criteria pollutants under the Clean Air Act. This module represents "micro-learning"— a short, focused bit of training on a particular topic.
- A module that explains what air toxics are. Similar to the criteria pollutants module, this module represents "micro-learning."

To access the course and modules on the LMS (<a href="https://epaapti.csod.com">https://epaapti.csod.com</a>), please register (if you haven't already!), then log in and refer to the "What's New" section on the home page.

#### **NTAA Upcoming Calls**

Contact Andy.Bessler@nau.edu if you have any questions about any call!

\*Registration instructions\* When you register for the GoToWebinar, please remember to include your Tribe, Region, or Organization in parenthesis after your last name. This allows you to see everyone on the call and prevents us from conducting a roll-call, ultimately saving everyone's time.

<b>EPA Policy Call:</b> Call in to hear updates from EPA on policies, actions, and tools relevant to Indian Country and Air Quality. <u>Attend by clicking here.</u>	Thursday, September 30, 2pm ET
Mobile Sources Work Group: This monthly work group addresses all mobile source pollution issues.  Attend by clicking here.	Thursday, October 7, 2pm ET
Indoor Air Quality Work Group: Join this work group every other month to help support IAQ work throughout Indian Country. Attend by clicking here.	Thursday, October 21, 2pm ET
Wood Smoke Work Group: Join this work group every other month to address wood smoke issues in Indian Country. Attend by clicking here.	Thursday, November 18, 2pm ET

#### The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professional (ITEP)

<u>Click here</u> for ITEP's new Tribal Environmental Management and Planning Online Courses. Sign up for a self-paced course hosted by ITEP's Waste and Response and Tribal Air Quality programs. New courses have been added, so check it out!

ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program (AIAQTP) hosts the Building Performance: Improving IAQ in Cold Climates, Residential Building Science Review, Radon Fundamentals, Quality Assurance Fundamental, Writing a Quality Assurance Project Plan, Emissions Inventory Fundamentals, and Emissions Inventory Advanced.

### **AIAQTP Schedule and Registration**

#### **Recorded Webinars**

Looking for more information check out the <u>Tribal Air Quality Media Space</u> <u>Channel.</u> Recent webinars include an Introduction to Air Quality Programs, Emissions Inventories, Remote Professional Assistance, and Woodstoves in Indian Country. Older classics include a series on Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke, Tribal Air Program and Grants, Data Management, and the Clean Air Act.

ITEP's <u>Tribes and Climate Change Calendar</u> includes conferences, trainings, webinars, and other events related to tribes and climate change.

### Climate Change / Energy

**NEW!** The Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe is hosting a free workshop for Tribes: Tribal Community-scale Solar Solutions for Climate & Community Resilience *October 18, 2021; 9:30am to Noon |* RSVP to jganion@bluelakerancheria-nsn.gov Who (would find it useful to attend): Tribal government leaders, Tribal staff, Tribal community members, Tribal businesses in energy, all those managing or building solar and related systems (i.e., telecom, microgrids, tribal utility authorities) on tribal lands.

**Why:** For tribal nations seeking to build - or expand - solar energy development within their nations at the community, facility, and/or residential scale, join this lively dialogue-based workshop with experts and practitioners and opportunities for one-on-one follow-up consulting.

### 2021 Tribal Energy Webinar Series: Energy Projects and Workforce Development: A Win-Win Opportunity: October 27

Energy projects are often labor-intensive during construction—and once they are complete, local capability is needed to operate and maintain those energy systems.

Tribes who develop a local workforce in conjunction with developing projects can realize improved project economics while creating local jobs and skilled labor. This webinar will explore this win-win opportunity. Register now.

## **US EPA Announces Upcoming Climate and Energy Webinars for State, Local, and Tribal Governments**

The US EPA announces there will be many webinars on climate and energy topics offered by federal agencies and others during the month of October. All webinars are free of charge, but space may be limited or require registration in advance. For more information subscribe to the <u>US EPA's State and Local Energy Newsletter</u>.

ITEP's Climate Change Adaptation Training Courses registration is online! Learn more about the courses and register here.

### **Toxics/Mobile Sources**

## 2021 Tribal Energy Webinar Series: Building Electrification: Why and How: September 29

Hosted by the Office of Indian Energy, this webinar will explore building electrification to utilize electricity rather than fossil fuels for building heating and cooking applications. Doing so can improve indoor air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This webinar will explore this trending topic on the path to a clean energy future. Register now.

### Toxics in the Community: Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) for Local and Tribal Governments

October 6; 1-2:30pm EDT / Register Here

An ELI and LGEAN Co-Sponsored Public Webinar: The Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) created the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) to inform the public about potentially hazardous materials in the community. In fact, two out of every three Americans live within three miles of facilities subject to the TRI, which covers over 800 individual chemicals and chemical categories. These substances often originate from manufacturing, mining and hazardous waste management sites and are known to cause significant adverse harm to the environment and human health.

Join the Local Government Environmental Assistance Network (LGEAN), the Environmental Law Institute (ELI) and EPA to learn more about how local and tribal governments can best use the TRI to help protect community members' health and welfare. EPA experts will provide an overview of the TRI, explaining which local and tribal government facilities may be subject to reporting requirements and how officials can use the TRI and other EPA tools to respond to community concerns and trace chemical releases back to their sources.

#### **NEW!** Virtual National Radon Training Event

*October 11 – 13, 2021 | Register Here* 

Building Technical Capacity (BTC) will not be offered for virtual training. The American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (AARST) will still have their symposium in person. We will join them virtually on the joint day. To register, view the agenda, and find more information please visit our <a href="Radon Training Event Program Website">Radon Training Event Program Website</a>

Due to COVID related travel restrictions, we will not be meeting in Bethesda, MD. Our radon training is now completely virtual.

The recent additions to OTAQ's website in August 2021. You can access these additions as well as new press releases and Federal Register notices related to OTAQ on our website.

- August 5, 2021: <u>EPA proposes to revise the greenhouse gas (GHG)</u> emissions standards for light-duty vehicles for 2023 and later model years to make the standards more stringent.
- August 5, 2021: <u>EPA announces plans to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG)</u> emissions and other harmful air pollutants from heavy-duty trucks through a series of rulemakings over the next three years.

### **Indoor Air Quality**

## **NEW!** Need Temporary Power? Use Caution with Portable Generators! Prevent Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

During power outages, portable generators can be used to help temporarily restore power to a few key appliances like refrigerators, lights and fans. Portable generators that use fuels such as gasoline, natural gas or kerosene are widely available. However, if they are not used correctly they can be hazardous because their exhaust contains deadly fumes, like carbon monoxide. Carbon monoxide is a toxic gas you cannot see or smell but could kill you in minutes.

#### Remember:

- **Do** use portable generators **outside** and far away from buildings.
- **Do not** use portable generators under any of the following conditions:
  - o inside your house or garage
  - on balconies or near doors, vents or windows, and
  - near where anyone is sleeping.

For more information please visit EPA's websites on <u>Safely Provide Power for Lighting</u>, <u>Cooking and Heating During an Emergency</u> and <u>Carbon Monoxides' Impact on Indoor Air Quality</u>

### U.S. Department of Education Encourages Use of American Rescue Plan Funds to Improve Ventilation and IAQ in Schools

Indoor air quality is critical to reopening schools safely and keeping them open. The U.S. Department of Education has released <a href="new guidance">new guidance</a> encouraging the use of American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds to improve ventilation systems and make other indoor air quality improvements in schools to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and tackle longstanding school ventilation improvement needs. The new Department of Education guidance highlights EPA resources to support investments in improved ventilation and indoor air quality. Use the following resources from EPA to supplement the information in the guidance:

- <u>Indoor Air and Coronavirus (COVID-19)</u>: Visit this page for the latest guidance on best indoor air practices to limit the spread of COVID-19.
- <u>Ventilation and Coronavirus (COVID-19)</u>: Ventilation is an important approach to lowering concentrations of indoor air pollutants, including viruses. Increase the ventilation in your school with outdoor air when possible.
- Air Cleaners, HVAC filters, and Coronavirus (COVID-19): Air cleaners and HVAC filters can help to reduce viruses and pollutants in the air. Consider upgrading the HVAC filters in your system and using safe, effective portable air cleaners to supplement HVAC filtration. Note: Do not use air cleaners that intentionally generate ozone in occupied spaces.
- Implementing a Layered Approach to Address COVID-19 in Public Indoor Spaces: A layered risk reduction approach is best to limit airborne transmission of COVID-19 learn how to combine increased ventilation and filtration with other CDC recommendations, such as wearing masks and social distancing.

### Wildfire Smoke and Indoor Air Quality

This summer, wildfires have spread across the U.S. creating devastation and dangerous smoke events affecting millions of American lives. If you are in need of immediate wildfire guidance, see EPA's <u>wildfire webpage</u> for more resources. Smoke from wildfires can adversely affect indoor air quality and put people's health at risk from exposure to particulate matter and other pollutants. Read on to learn more about:

- How Indoor airPLUS Homes Protect Against the Harmful Effects of Wildfire Smoke
- Reduce Exposure to Wildfire Smoke Inside the Home
- Additional Resources

## **How Indoor airPLUS Homes Help Reduce the Occurrence of Asthma Triggers in the Home**

Here are ways an Indoor airPLUS home can help reduce <u>asthma triggers</u> in the home.

Be sure to subscribe to <u>CodeTalk</u>, HUD's Office of Native American Programs newsletter, for webinars and opportunities!

### **RESOURCES & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Now Hiring!**

The Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
Is hiring for an Air Quality Program Manager position with the Red Cliff
Environmental Department. Job posting and instructions can be found here.

#### Sitting Bull College Meteorology and Atmospheric Science Instructor

This person will teach classes in Environmental Science at Sitting Bull College, especially in the area of Meteorology and Atmospheric Science. This person will mentor and advise students in the SBC Environmental Science degree programs. This person will help develop, maintain and promote the FIARE monitoring station, which is funded by NASA. FIARE will provide research opportunities for BS and MS students using data derived from FIARE. FIARE can be previewed at the Sitting Bull College website at <a href="https://www.sittingbull.edu/fiare">www.sittingbull.edu/fiare</a>.

**Please submit:** Completed Standing Rock Public Transportation application, official transcripts (please white out birth date and social security number), 3 current reference letters (1 from immediate supervisor), Certificate of Indian blood (please white out photo, birth date, social security number), and Veterans Status to: *Personnel Office Sitting Bull College 9299 HWY 24 Fort Yates, ND 58538 (701)854-8004* 

The Santa Ana Pueblo's Department of Natural Resources is hiring an Environmental Education Outreach Coordinator. The position will increase the understanding of the ecosystems on the Santa Ana Pueblo and environmental stewardship of the Pueblo's lands by implementing all of the environmental education and outreach efforts for the Department of Natural Resources.

You can apply here.

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is pleased to announce the availability of funding to support the hiring of Tribal Climate Resilience Liaisons in Alaska, the Northwest, and the Southwest through the BIA's Tribal Resilience Program (Program). Eligible applicants include tribal non-profit, non-governmental organizations and tribally-controlled colleges or universities (TCUs) that serve federally-recognized tribes. Other entities may participate as subgrantees. The solicitation is available on grants.gov, and named BIA-2021-TCRP.

To view and/or receive ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program newsletter, <u>Native Voices</u>, <u>click here!</u>

### Climate Change/Energy

Join NCAI's Climate Action email listserv here!

Sign up for the **Alliance for Green Heat**'s newsletter!

To view and/or receive ITEP's Climate Change newsletter, click here!

### **Toxics/Mobile Sources**

#### **NEW! 2021 American Rescue Plan (ARP) Electric School Bus Rebates**

EPA will fund \$7 million for electric school bus rebates in underserved communities. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) appropriated funds to the EPA for "activities that identify and address disproportionate environmental or public health harms and risks in minority populations or low-income populations" under several programs, including the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA). This program has not opened to accept applications. More details and supporting documents for this program will be posted on this page by the end of September.

### **Rebate Application Form and Supporting Documents**

- 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates Eligibility List (pdf)
- 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates Program Guide Coming Soon
- 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates Application *Coming Soon*
- 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Coming Soon

### **Eligible Applicants**

- 1. Public school districts listed on the <u>ARP Electric School Bus Rebates</u> Eligibility List
  - a. Districts on the eligibility list are estimated to have 30% or more students living in poverty based on the <u>US Census Small Area Income</u> and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) School District Estimates for 2019.

States with zero school districts that make this cutoff will have one school district with the highest percent of students in poverty represented in the eligibility list.

- 2. Tribal schools
- 3. Private fleets that operate school buses under a contract with an eligible entity listed above

## EPA Announces \$10 Million Available for States, Tribes, and Territories to Address Environmental Challenges

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing the availability of Multipurpose Grant (MPG) funding to support states, Tribes and territories in addressing high-priority environmental issues, including PFAS, environmental justice and climate change. For more information on eligibility, use of funding, process for award, and timelines, please reference the <u>Multipurpose Grant</u> guidance.

#### Recent additions to OTAQ's website in August 2021

You can access these additions as well as new press releases and Federal Register notices related to OTAQ on our website.

### **Indoor Air Quality**

### **Resource for Healthy Indoor Air Quality**

Check out the website <a href="https://forhealth.org/">https://forhealth.org/</a> for many resources related to healthy homes and indoor air quality!

The Tribal Healthy Homes Network (THHN) has a webpage dedicated to Funding Opportunities! Additionally, THHN has developed a Funding Guide for American Indian and Alaska Native Communities.

# Most Recent Listing: EPA Rules from the Federal Register can be <u>found here</u>.

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<u>Modify your Subscription</u>